

From: Kenneth D. Reiszner
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft settlement

It was embarrassing enough for the nation to give Microsoft a free ride on the antitrust action but to allow Microsoft to prevail in the class action suit is abominable. Nevertheless, this is an opportunity for the justice department to do something right for a change.

Red Hat has offered to provide free software to every school in America if Microsoft provided the value of its donation in hardware costs rather than its own software. It is time for you people to go twist some Microsoft arms.

Open source software will eventually take over the operating system and desktop software markets with or without any action on your part or other parts of the government. This simple proposal by Red Hat would allow our children to become familiar with the software of the future.

Ironically, the difference between open source and Microsoft software is getting narrower with time so even if Microsoft software is still the norm on the desktop when these kids graduate, they will be able to cross over without effort. The difference will come when they buy a computer of their own and don't have to purchase the original software and upgrade after upgrade.

Do something right for a change, take Red Hat up on their offer.

Kenneth D. Reiszner, Ph.D.
President
REAL, Inc.
P.O. Box 709
Lecompte, LA 71346

Ph.No. & FAX: 318-443-0426